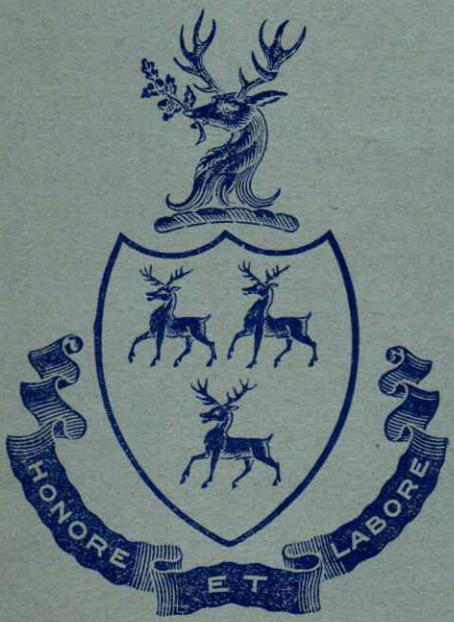
Roan Magazine.



No. 12. NOVEMBER, 1915.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Mr. T. R. N. Crofts, M.A.	201
Tyler Memorial Fund	204
Football	204
With the R.A.M.C. at the Front	205
Roll of Honour	207
Corrections, Promotions, etc.	208
In Memoriam	209
The Cadet Corps	211
Camp	212
In Memoriam. Edgar S. Mace	216
Old Roan Association	219
Events	221
Marriage	222

Contributions from both Old and Present Boys will be warmly welcomed by the Editor (Mr. W. W. Poyser).

Old Roan Notes should be forwarded to—

Mr. S. R. Ducker,

At the School.

ROAN MAGAZINE

HONORE ET LABORE

No. 12.] NOVEMBER, 1915. [3d.

MR. T. R. N. CROFTS, M.A.

Headmaster, 1910–1915.

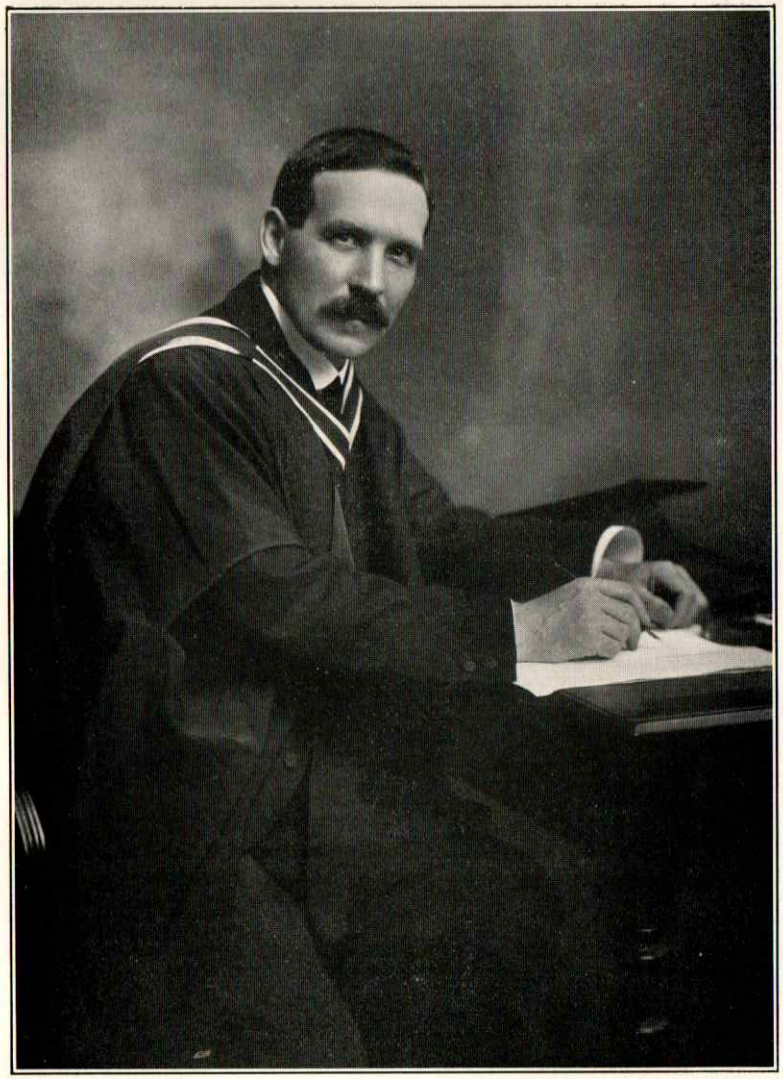
THE event which has recently most deeply affected the current of our School life is the departure of Mr. Crofts to become the Headmaster of the Royal Masonic School, Bushey. The news of his appointment spread something like dismay. We instinctively felt how much the working of the School centred round him, how high was our regard for him, and how great our loss would be. As a record of what Mr. Crofts has done for the School we cannot do better than reprint an appreciation which has appeared in the "Kentish Mercury."

"Mr. Crofts, who was appointed to Roan School in 1910, was educated at Rugby and at Caius College, Cambridge. He was an assistant master at Glenalmond, N.B., from 1897 to 1902, and from then to the time of his coming to Greenwich an assistant master at the Merchant Taylors'. His departure will be a distinct loss to the Roan Boys' School, for during the five years he has been headmaster he has rendered it services of the utmost value. Mr. Crofts took high honours at Cambridge in both classics and modern languages, and, in addition to his scholastic attainments and varied experience, brought to his work loftiness of aim and unbounded enthusiasm. His genial personality and widespread interests and sympathy have gained for him unusual influence over his pupils. Not only has he maintained the reputation of the School as an educational institution, but he has also greatly developed it on the social side, as our columns have from time to time recorded. He

has, we think wisely, introduced the 'house' system, from which some of the distinctive benefits of public school training undoubtedly spring. He has most successfully inaugurated an 'Old Boys'' Association, an institution of manifest usefulness. Himself a lover of all outdoor games, he has procured an adequate playing field for the School, and by his interest and example has greatly extended the athletic and physical training provided. At the last celebration of Empire Day the parade of the recently-formed Cadet Corps created a most favourable impression of the School's activities in this direction. Mr. Croft's relations with the parents have been of a happy nature. He has provided opportunities for the meeting of parents and teachers. In this connection the Headmaster's annual 'At Home' has served a most useful purpose. Any of our readers who have been present at a recent prize distribution and heard the vigorous rendering of 'Carmen Roanum'—the School song which Mr. Crofts has written to inspire the Roan boy—will recognise that something of his influence will be felt by many future generations of scholars. We wish him every success in his new sphere."

On the last day of the Summer Term the whole School assembled in the Hall to take leave of Mr. and Mrs. Crofts and to ask them to accept as a parting gift, from the Present Boys, Old Boys and Masters, a Sheraton china cabinet and nest of afternoon-tea tables.

Mr. Potter, in making the presentation, said :—" It takes much more than the present downpour of rain to damp our spirits on a day like this, when we are breaking up for our longest holiday. To-day we are not ashamed to confess that our gaiety is 'sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,' for we have met together to say goodbye to our Headmaster before he goes to take charge of that larger and richer and probably more important school which has so selfishly robbed us of him. I know that the regret caused by this parting is not only on our side, and that Mr. Crofts, although he looks forward, as he must, to his new work, will retain many pleasant and tender thoughts of the time he has spent at Roan School. I do not propose to recount all the fine qualities by which Mr. Crofts has won our admiration. Such things, though deeply felt and appreciated, are not lightly to be spoken of. I think Mr. Crofts himself will be content with what I know will be the schoolboys' verdict, and not uninterested to know that long after him will linger tales of his prowess with ball and bat, and perhaps also dark whisperings of the might with which he could wield, when stern occasion demanded, another instrument of slender form and less pleasurable associations. But I feel sure you would not wish him to depart without assuring him that he carries with him our



T. R. N. CROFTS, M.A.

Headmaster 1910—1915.

gratitude for the good work he has done here, our respect for the high standard he has set us, both in work and in play, and our affection for the kindly concern he has taken in all our affairs. We feel that he has left the School a better School than he found it, and when the history of this period comes to be written the chronicler, after the approved fashion of historians, will be compelled to head the chapter, 'Good King Crofts, 1910–1915.' We shall soon be able to gaze upon a large portrait of Mr. Crofts, placed next to that of Mr. Ridger, here, in the Hall. As years roll on these portraits of past Headmasters will doubtless extend right round the walls. But no matter how famous or distinguished these men may be, Mr. Crofts will be pre-eminent in one respect. He will always be pointed out as the author of 'Carmen Roanum'; and doubtless through this song something at least of his influence and spirit will hover over the Roan School as long as it exists. We are no less sorry to have to say goodbye to Mrs. Crofts. The masters and their wives are indebted to her for many friendly acts and much hospitality, and the boys will never forget how much interest she has taken in them and how often she has graced their social functions with her presence. We hope both Mr. and Mrs. Crofts will accept our little gift as a token of our regret at parting and an earnest of our sincerest good wishes for their future happiness, success and prosperity."

Sergeant Bulford (O.R.), of the Canadian Contingent, in a few well-chosen sentences expressed how highly Mr. Crofts is esteemed by the Old Boys.

Mr. Crofts, in reply, said, "I must first thank you all very much indeed not only for the handsome presents but more particularly for what Mr. Potter has said and for the way in which his words have been received. The five years I have spent at Greenwich have been very happy ones. There has been a good deal of work to do, and I have tried to, and have, possibly, accomplished something, but I could not have done anything without the spontaneous and loyal assistance of you all—masters and boys. I am glad to have done something to foster the manly sports of the School, and nothing has given me greater pleasure than to see a really good cricket side in my last term, a side of which every member was keen and a good field, for those are the essentials of a really good team. I am also glad to have assisted in the formation of a Cadet Corps and to see it grow in numbers and efficiency. I am going to a school of larger scope and to playgrounds of many acres, but I shall perhaps not experience the same satisfaction of building up that I have had here. I am no doubt going to a school richer and better equipped, but I do hope that before very long the Roan School will be removed to those new surroundings which we have

had in view for so long. Though the present site and its surroundings are against the progress of the School, yet much is to be gained by conquering difficulties, and there is a very bright flame still burning in the dark passages of the old building. I have grave doubts as to whether I shall be as happy in my new school; Mrs. Crofts, who is perhaps inclined to be pessimistic, assures me that I shall never be appreciated anywhere again as I am here, and looks quite gloomily on the change. In conclusion I may say, although I shall no longer be your Headmaster, yet I shall look forward to many a happy visit to the School in future years."

TYLER MEMORIAL FUND.

The fund is progressing well. Up to the present Mr. Potter has received promises amounting to over £60 to be paid before next July, of which he has received nearly £30. It is pleasing to find how deeply Sergeant Tyler's unique personality had impressed itself on the Old Boys. Their letters are eloquent of the great admiration they had for him, and their sense of his work could not be better expressed than in the words of an Old Boy now serving his country where Sergeant Tyler lies buried, who says in a letter to his parents: "I have enclosed the form for the Tyler Memorial Fund. As you will see, I am contributing 5s. monthly. I am only too pleased to be able to do something by way of honouring his memory. You know my own opinion of him—a fine soldier and an English gentleman to the backbone."

The names of subscribers to the fund will be published in the next issue.

FOOTBALL.

With six old colours as a nucleus it was expected that the team would be fairly strong this season. Not only have these anticipations been realised, but by the skill and keenness of each member the team of 1915 ranks as one of the best that has represented the School. When all have done so well it seems invidious to select any particular player for commendation, yet a special meed of praise must be awarded to Tuckfield, who, through his indefatigability as captain, and skill as pivot of the forward line, has had no small share in securing the efficiency of the team.

A glance at the results clearly shows its effectiveness, the defeat of the Crusaders being a very creditable performance.

1st XI:—D. M. Tuckfield (Captain), C. W. Christie (Vice-Captain); 2nd XI:—F. S. Hisee (Captain), A. J. D. Ronald (Vice-Captain); Assistant Hon. Secretary, D. M. Tuckfield.

RESULTS TO DATE.

1st Team v. Colfes, 11-0; *v.* Belvedere, 7-0; *v.* Crusaders, 4-2; *v.* Colfes, 8-2.

2nd Team v. Colfes, 6-0; *v.* Belvedere, 6-1; *v.* Colfes, 4-1.

The following teams are being met during this term: Brockley Secondary, Colfes, Belvedere County, Crusaders, Woolwich Polytechnic, Addey and Stanhope, Old Boys.

WITH THE R.A.M.C. AT THE FRONT.

We have received another extremely interesting letter from Mr. Triebel. The incidents he recounts took place during the great attack in September.

"We had a fairly exciting week-end, as you will have seen from the papers. On Thursday (September 23rd) we left our convalescents to look after themselves and set out for the trenches. It was a long jog in full marching order with ground-sheets and other necessaries—past our hospital further up the line, through the wet and dark. The hospital, a converted 'blanchisserie,' was excellently fitted out, with electric light in the operating theatre and palliasses for the wounded. There we left the nursing section and silently wended our way in the direction of star shells and rockets.

It was about 2 a.m. on the Friday when we arrived at the divisional dressing station. The latter is indicated by arrows along the roads and paths from the trenches, and is intended for walking cases. There was fairly heavy firing by the R.G.A. all that day, which we spent in waiting and resting in a loft littered with straw.

Next morning, a little before 2 a.m., the alarm sounded, and in a few minutes we were tramping towards the dug-outs, following the little railway which runs from the road to the head of the communication trench. We took stretchers, surgical haversacks, shell dressings and water bottles along with us, and a little before 4 found us in position; then a rest to await orders.

One party was to start work immediately after the bombardment and the rest of the section to be in readiness. 'B' section

were in the trenches, and my section was to run the trolleys for the first part of the action. All this time it was raining and the cold was chilling.

There was hardly time to take one's bearings before the murky sky assumed a livid hue. A few maxim bullets that sped over us warned us to take cover, and some half-dozen of us crowded into a little dug-out. For nearly half an hour guns of every size and shells of every sort did their damage and drowned all other sounds. We heard later that our first party dashed up during the bombardment to the railhead ready to convey cases back as they were brought up by 'B' section. They had a maxim turned on them, but got through safely.

There seemed to be a very poor reply to the bombardment, and soon after 5 a.m. our own machine guns sounded much fainter—a sign that our men had cleared the parapet and made an advance. My party was called out soon after, and our first business was to work the trucks, loaded with stretchers and sitting cases, from the trench mouth to the opposite railhead, where they were wheeled to the motor ambulances on litters and passed on to the advanced dressing station; here those that required further attention were attended to before going on again to our own hospital. From here after the necessary operations, all that could be moved were handed over to the British Red Cross for transport to a clearing hospital.

The morning wore on and gradually a counter-bombardment started, consisting chiefly of shrapnel, though gas shells, omitting their yellowish green vapours, were also visible. Once our rails were torn up a few yards from where we stood, but the damage done was soon repaired. I confess it gives you a twinge to see fellows you know on stretchers, for some of 'B' section were hit during the counter-bombardment. They cleared the cases from the front line trench, where they received them from the regimental stretcher-bearers, our own officer being down there bandaging. No man, I believe, was kept waiting, and the ——— has congratulated the 24th on this performance. (Mr. Triebel is attached to the 24th Field Ambulance.—Ed.)

Our turn to go down came early in the afternoon. It was a trudge of about a mile along the avenues and streets of trench-world, through deeper mud and water than I have ever paddled in, a fine rain falling the while and chilling us to the bone. As luck would have it we were not shelled on any of our journeys, and we just stuck it until there were no more wounded to clear, and by then it was nearly midnight.

The climatic conditions were trying, as it was difficult to obtain a foothold and at some exposed corners it was necessary to advance in a stooping attitude. Friend and foe were carried back. One huge German was addressed thus by a real Devon lad: 'Well Fritz, I reckon you'm lucky—going to blightey (Anglicé—England).' German prisoners (unwounded) also passed us under escort.

Time passed very quickly, and we were surprised to find it was Sunday morning when we had unloaded the last litter on to the car and returned to the dug-out. A snatch of food, and we lay down as best we could in the space available, only taking off our wet tunics. I slept soundly, and was nearly dry again on getting up for breakfast at 7. We found the water cart of the ——— and made tea, and fried bacon, and enjoyed a meal which was a contrast to the biscuits and whatever water was available on the Saturday.

There was another short spell of duty to do: we brought down some of the dead to the open graveside. Then roll call, and 'A' section were 'all present.' Back to the dressing station to await orders and change clothing as far as possible. In the evening our cars took us back to hospital to receive a hearty welcome from the fellows there. By then nearly all patients had been treated and sent down the line with the customary dispatch of the Medical Service. We were treated royally—given real palliasses and blankets, and regaled with tea and food. Breakfast in bed next morning, and then a parade at 9, after which we marched back to the camp we had left on Thursday. Monday afternoon was spent in an attempt to remove the mud and a three days' beard.

The Saturday was a hard day, but I feel as right as rain again in my little 'bivy,' with its biscuit tins and miniature table. Every consideration was shown to the bearers both at the dressing stations and in hospital.

The organization of the service from trench to ward inspired every confidence. Not one wounded Tommy complained—a cigarette made him as happy as a lord. But I did wonder once whether the people at home know what he has done for them and whether they will live up to Lincoln's appeal for the broken soldier and his dependents. Anyway, this work is worth doing."

ROLL OF HONOUR.

We have received the following additional names of Old Roan Boys serving with the Colours since our last issue:—

Belgram (Corpl.), Westminster Dragoons
Bennett, W. J., 2nd London R.F.A.
Berry, H. S., Gordon Highlanders.
Bosustow, G. W. (2nd Lieut.), Durham L.I.
Browse, M. F. E., 49th Batt. Canadians.
Clayton, J. H., R.A.M.C.
Coombs, E. J., 16th Batt. Australians.
Cooper, W. J., Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

Curtis, R. G., A.S.C.
Deacon, W., L.R.B.
Esson, J. R., 9th Royal Scots.
Fowler, S. J. (unit not known).
French, J., Royal West Kents.
Gallard, J. L., A.S.C. (M.T.).
Giles, B. A. (Corpl.), Australians.
Goldfinch, E. A. H. (Corpl.), Grenadier Guards.
Gregory, A. J. C., R.E.
Hamilton, F. W. (2nd Lieut.), 8th Royal West Kents.
Hill, W. F., 4th London Howitzer.
Humphreys, G. F., 10th Middlesex.
Hurn, F. A., 10th Royal West Kents.
Jeffries, L., Inns of Court O.T.C.
Johnson, W., Royal West Kent.
Johnston, R. H., 2/2nd London R.F.A.
Lyon, H. D. (Lce.-Corpl.), 1st Surrey Rifles.
Martin, S. B., R.A.M.C.
McCrae, A. S., Seaforth Highlanders.
Miles, H., R.A.M.C.
Palmer, C. W., Queen's Westminsters.
Pattison, J. E., Artists' Rifles.
Pierce, S. J., Royal Flying Corps.
Pierce, W. G., Royal Flying Corps.
Pringle, J., A.S.C.
Redmond, A., 9th Norfolks.
Reynolds, J., 8th London R.F.A.
Richardson, W., A.O.C.
Robbins, S. A., Inns of Court O.T.C.
Rowcliffe, J., R.A.M.C.
Rowe, D., R.A.M.C.
Shipman, L. P., R.F.A.
Shrapnell, A., Seaforth Highlanders.
Sibborn, L. C. (Lieut.), R.F.A.
Smith, F. C., 2nd London R.F.A.
Smith, D. A., Inns of Court O.T.C.
Thomas, C. (Corpl.), 20th London.
Thornton, P. C. (Corpl), R.E.
Thwaites, A. J., 20th London Cyclists.
Walden, H. F., 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers.
Walker, L. C., Royal West Kents.
Wallis, W. H., 3/6th Royal Sussex.
Warmington, L. C. (Lieut.), 18th Durham L.I.
Western, F. C. (2nd Lieut.), 3rd/1st Cambridgeshires.
Whalley, C. W. (Lieut.), 23rd London.
Williams, L. E., 4th London R.F.A.
Wilson, A. (Capt.), A.S.C.
Wood, G. H. W., 20th London.

CORRECTIONS, PROMOTIONS, ETC.

Alford, C. J. (2nd Lieut.), 9th Bedfords.
Andrew, F. (2nd Lieut.), 10th Border Regiment.
Argent, F. J. (2nd Lieut.), Royal West Kents.
Baird, C. J. (2nd Lieut.), 7th London.
Bridel, H. L. (Capt.), West Yorks.
Cass, F. W. (Q.-M.-Sergt.), A.S.C. (M.T.).
Crawford, J. C. (2nd Lieut.), 20th London.
Darnel, H. W. (2nd Lieut.), 14th Middlesex.
Deacon, W., L.R.B.
Durling, E. S. (Capt.), 6th York and Lanc.
Freeman, A. M. (Lce.-Corpl.), A.S.C.
Gimpson, P. J., 8th London R.F.A.
Lamb, S. E. (2nd Lieut), R.F.A.
Leng, H. D. (Corpl.), R.E.
McClure, D. C. (Sergt.), 20th London.
McGlashan, W. S. (Sergt.), 3rd London Yeomanry.
McMurray, F., R.E.
Nash, W. S. (Sergt.), A.S.C.
Obee, E. (Sergt.), London Scottish.
O'Donoghue, R. (Lce.-Corpl.), Royal Munster Fusiliers.
Ring, G. (2nd Lieut.), Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
Scarr, P. E. (Corpl.), Rifle Brigade.
Snee, E. A. (Lce.-Corpl.).
Waterfield, E. W. (2nd Lieut.), R.E.

IN MEMORIAM.

GURNEY WHITE BUXTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (O.R. '83-'86), 46, died of dysentery while serving as a R.A.M.C. Captain in the Dardanelles.

Dr. Russell, who kindly sent us a cutting from a long account in the "North Bucks Times" of September 28th, says: "He was a sterling good fellow, and I always liked and respected him. I expect the list of O.R. boys who have died at the Front must be an increasing one, and it is very grevious, though at the same time one would be sorry, too, if the Old School had not sent a substantial contingent to the war, and that, one is proud to know, it has."

GORDON ROWELL (O.R. '09-'11), King's Royal Rifle Corps, killed in Flanders on July 6th. He was but 18 years old.

His Lieutenant says of him in a letter to his parents: "He was such a brave, gentle-mannered, lovable fellow that everyone liked him, and we all send you our deepest sympathy in your great sorrow."

E. J. COOMBS (O.R. '06-'09), 16th Batt. Australians, killed in action in the Dardanelles, May 31st, 1915.

EDWARD NOTT (O.R. '94-'97), 3rd Batt. Rifle Brigade, who had been in France since last February, was killed by shrapnel on August 15th.

EDGAR S. MACE (O.R. '03-'11), 20th London, killed in action September 26th.

An appreciation of Mace will be found on another page.

R. F. MEADER (O.R. '07-'12), Lce.-Cpl., killed in action September 30th. He was just 19.

"He died a hero, leading his men."

H. J. TRITSCHLER (O.R. '11-'13), Devonshire Regt., died of wounds received in action.

H. D. CHAMPION (O.R. '99-'05), Corporal in the Berkshire Yeomanry, was killed in action, on August 21st, in Gallipoli.

Mr. Potter writes: "The news of Champion's death brings to me a sense of personal loss. I have the pleasantest memories of him as a schoolboy, and of late years I had met him frequently and counted myself happy in enjoying his friendship. Any school would be proud to have had a part in the training of a man of such sterling character. Tall, dark and handsome, of charming manners and modest bearing, he was greatly liked and respected by all who knew him. To no one, I think, could the grand old name of gentleman be more fitly applied than to him."

JOHN PARKER (O.R. '03-'07), Lieutenant, King's Royal Lancaster Regiment. News of his death was given by a message dropped into the English lines from a German aeroplane.

We give on the opposite page a reproduction of the original German note and a translation of it below.

Mr. Potter writes: "'Jock' Parker was another of our Old Boys on whom a master's memory delights to linger. He was a fine-looking lad of fair and open countenance, of high spirits and courage, always bright and cheerful, keen at his work and a leader in games. After two years at Cheltenham Training College, where he distinguished himself in mathematics and football, he went to Lavoy, Alberta, Canada. From here he often wrote to me. He described his work as a teacher in a rural school, consisting of one room containing twelve 'children' ranging from seven years to twenty. During this time he was saving £80 a year from his salary to pay his fees at the University of Alberta. He came back to England to join the Army. We greatly mourn his loss, but are proud to know he made such a gallant end."

Translation of the German note reproduced on opposite page:

"On the 21st July, 1915, a Voisin biplane with French colours was forced to descend at Bapaume, after a desperate fight in the air. Observation Lieutenant Parker, of the Royal Lancaster Regiment, was wounded four times and succumbed to his wounds the same day.

"The Flying-Corporal Judge is unwounded and a prisoner in German hands.

"The German Aviators pay a tribute of the highest admiration to their opponent defeated in honourable fight."

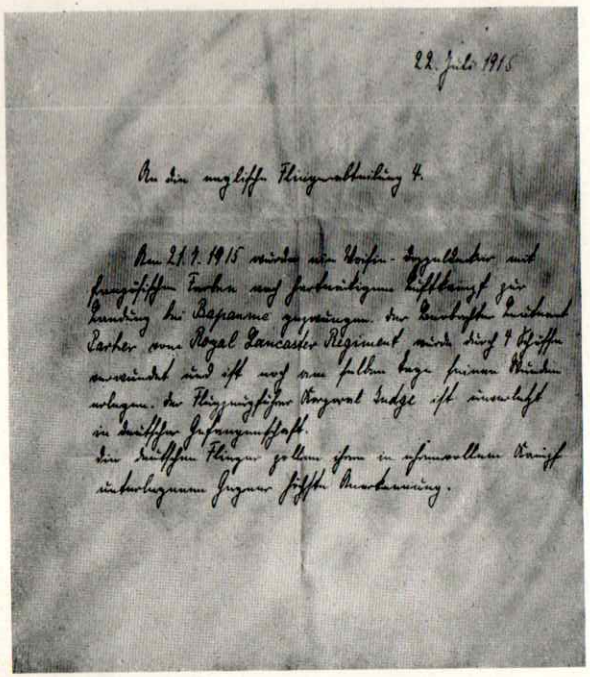
W. S. MCGLASHAN (O.R. '90-'96), Sergeant, 3rd County of London Yeomanry, killed in action, in Gallipoli, August 21st, 1915.

The following Old Boys have been wounded:—

E. RIDGER (O.R. '96-'02), Lieutenant, Royal Fusiliers, severely wounded in France, is now in Lady Carnarvon's Hospital at Kingsclere, Newbury. We are glad to say he is making good progress towards recovery.

C. W. RIDGER (O.R. '91-'98) took part in General Botha's advance into, and conquest of, German South-West Africa.

ERIC BALL (O.R. '98-'03), Major, 20th London, badly wounded on September 26th. He is now in hospital in England, and from the latest information we understand he is going on well.

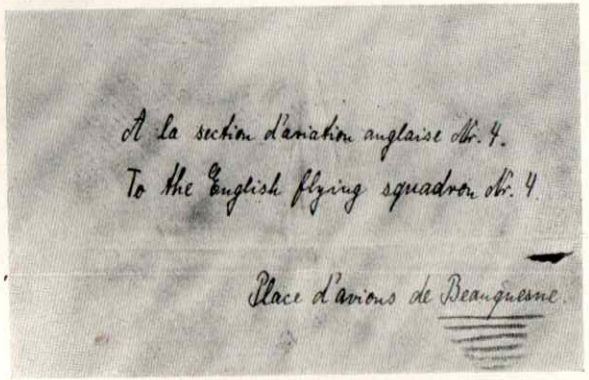


22. Juli 1915

An die englische Fliegerabteilung 4.

Am 21.7.1915 wurde ein Voisin-Doppeldecker mit französischen Farben nach heftigem Luftkampf zur Landung bei Bapaume gezwungen. Der Beobachter Leutnant Parker vom Royal Lancaster Regiment wurde dabei 4 Schüsse verwundet und ist noch am selben Tage seinen Wunden erlegen. Der Flieger-Gefreite Corporal Judge ist unverletzt in deutscher Gefangenschaft.

Den deutschen Fliegern gelten ihre in ehrenvollem Kampf unterlegenen Gegner stets hohe Anerkennung.



A la section d'aviation anglaise Nr. 4.

To the English flying squadron Nr. 4.

Place d'avions de Beaucourt.

F. J. Hicks (O.R. '08-'13), Corporal, 2nd Suffolks, is in hospital at Folkestone suffering from shrapnel wounds received in action in Flanders. He has been out 9 months. Old Drake House Boys may be glad of his address: 13144, Army Nursing Home, 38 Manor Road, Folkestone.

G. A. Cash (O.R. '05-'11), 20th London, has been wounded in France.

Herbert S. Fletcher (O.R. '99-'05), was wounded on September 25th, and is now in Hospital at Exeter, making good recovery.

Stuart H. Lewis (O.R. '00-'05), Lieutenant, 3rd Batt. The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), attached to the 1st Northamptonshire Regiment, has been admitted to the Empire Private Hospital, St. Vincent Square, Westminster, suffering from severe injuries to his left hand and gas (received in France on September 27th).

THE CADET CORPS.

Considerable developments have taken place in the Cadet Corps since the last issue of the Magazine. On July 10th the Corps received official recognition from the Territorial Forces Association and became affiliated to the 20th Batt., The London Regiment. Commissions were granted by the Lord Lieutenant of London on behalf of the King, as follows:—

Mr. G. R. Parker, Cadet Major.
,, S. R. Ducker, ,, Captain.
,, W. W. Poyser, ,, Lieutenant and Quartermaster.
,, J. Jackson, ,, Lieutenant.
,, A. P. Corderey, ,, ,,
,, A. C. Horth, ,, ,,
,, P. Selver ,, ,,

On October 22nd, Mr. W. Mann was granted a Commission.

Owing to most of the N.C.O's leaving last Term, the following promotions were made in September:—

Corp. Colebrook, to Sergt., C Company.
,, Ronald, to Sergt., D Company.
Cadet Willis, to Corpl. for service with Ambulance Section.
,, Tebbutt ,, ,, ,, ,, Band.

To Lce.-Corpl. :—Cadets Gardner, Wiltshire, Gilbert, Burnett, Lyon, Jefferson, Moscrop, Carr, Glasson, Yeomans, Daniel, Aldrick, Doswell, Ingram, Byrnes, Hisee, Taylor, Raymond, Pace and Meux.

Acting-Sergt.-Major Tuckfield has been appointed Co.-Sergt.-Major and attached to A Company, and Mr. C. W. Godfrey has been appointed Battalion Sergt.-Major.

After some delay the Corps is now in uniform, and the possession of uniform appears to have re-acted favourably on the progress and smartness of the Corps. The Section and Company drill show considerable improvement, and good work continues to be done by the Ambulance and Signalling Sections. A Musketry Course has been drawn up by Lieut. Poyser, and every Cadet will complete the first part of the Course before Christmas.

Recruiting has been very successful this Term, and a recruit squad of about 40 is making rapid progress under Lieut. Poyser and Sergt.-Major Godfrey.

The Corps made its first official appearance on Sunday, October 24th, at a Memorial Service for the fallen officers and men of the 20th London. In spite of the bad weather, 90 Cadets fell in at 9 a.m. and marched to Holly Hedge House to join a detachment of the 20th. After the service at St. Mary's, Lewisham, they marched back to Holly Hedge House and witnessed the presentation of the D.C.M. to Lce.-Corpl. Carey of the 20th.

On Wednesday, October 27th, the Battalion had a route march round Burnt Ash, Mottingham and Eltham, a distance of about six miles, but owing to a late start it was quite dark before the School ground was reached. The marching was very good, and the Band, in spite of the absence of Mr. Amesbury, performed excellently, and gave evidence of very careful training.

CAMP.

The Summer Term finished on Tuesday morning, July 27th, and early that afternoon Eastney Street saw an unfamiliar sight, for some of the School Cadets, abandoning all thought of school books, were busily engaged in loading four trucks with camp kettles, crockery, rifles, kit bags, and all the various impedimenta necessary for a camp Leaving Eastney Street to repose in unwonted calm for six weeks, the parties of Cadets made their way to the School Field, where others of their number had already commenced operations. But we must first go back a little in the story.

As soon as the Cadet Corps had been well started, our thoughts turned to a summer camp, and the School Field seemed

the most suitable place for our maiden efforts in this direction. As tents were difficult to procure, the number and variety of farm buildings and sports' pavilions promised us good practice in billeting ; the Quaggy formed a natural "ablution place" and wood for our fires was to be had in plenty. These considerations decided the question, and arrangements were made accordingly.

The officers present in camp were Major G. R. Parker (Camp Commandant), Captain S. R. Ducker (Camp Adjutant), Lieut. W. W. Poyser (Camp Quartermaster), Lieut. A. C. Horth (officer in charge of Pioneer Section) and Lieuts. J. Jackson and A. P. Corderey.

The preliminary arrangements for the camp had been carried out by a camp committee consisting of the Adjutant, Quartermaster, and Lieut. Horth. Mention must also be made here of the very able assistance given to the committee by Mrs. Horth, especially in helping to arrange the dietary for the week and in obtaining supplies. The Corps is also much indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, who did everything in their power to help the camp forward, and especially in the loan of many utensils and the gift of some famous puddings, to which officers and men did full justice on the Wednesday. The general arrangement was that the camp should be divided into parties according to billets, each party to furnish a guard, fatigue parties, etc.

The various sleeping quarters were in a state of high jubilation on Tuesday evening. Lights went out at 9.30 p.m., but the three officers who slept in camp that night were awakened about 2 a.m. to find a cricket match in progress, and by 4 a.m. the whole camp was awake and about. The officers grimly remarked to each other that the next night should see an alteration, but the strict enforcement of the rules was unnecessary, for the next day's work thoroughly tired out every Cadet in camp. The Wednesday morning saw the inception of a strict military routine, and it can be said at once that throughout the period of the camp the Cadets entered with the greatest keenness into the many and often tiring duties they were called upon to perform.

Guard-mounting, orderly duties, cooking, kit inspection, physical and military drill, left little idle time, and the Wednesday closed in a peaceful camp, with everyone except the night guard sleeping the sleep born of honest open-air work.

The sentry work was extremely well done, and the keenest competition was shown to go on night guard. The sentries were challenged periodically each night and the guard turned out, and all were found alert and watchful. Turning out the guard at 4 a.m. is somewhat of an unthankful duty, and one Cadet, who was told

by another that they were being turned out for "fun," remarked that some people had a curious idea of "fun."

Another Cadet, who turned out with the guard minus his rifle and still rubbing his eyes, replied to the query, "Are you asleep?" with, "I don't quite know, sir."

During the camp, the Cadets increased wonderfully in smartness and promptitude, so much so that visitors, who evidently expected to find a kind of holiday camp, were amazed at the serious way in which Cadets were undertaking sentry duty, cooking and fatigue work. Cadets seemed to vie with one another in being smart and alert, and this is especially true of the N.C.O's, several of whom had only recently received promotion.

Especial mention must be made of the sterling work of the sergeants. Sergt.-Major Tuckfield worked like a Trojan and acquitted himself as though to the manner born. The other sergeants were indefatigable, and perhaps the remark of one of them who was resting at full length after a particularly worrying and tiring day, that he was very tired but was enjoying himself immensely, may be taken as expressing the feelings of them all. The cooking was worthy of all praise. Acting-Sergeants Hisee and Wiltshire, ably supported by their staff of cooks, worked wonders, and the stew they made on the second day was a revelation.

Sleeping quarters were neatly and smartly kept, while the field as a whole was a model of tidiness. The officers' orderlies carried out many unfamiliar duties with great success. Quite a remarkable feature of the week was the way in which the most unlikely Cadets—judged by the ordinary school standards—carried out duties assigned to them. To choose the Cadet one thought to be the least capable of performing a certain task seemed to be the royal road to getting it done well.

The Thursday provided us with a most exciting episode, and one which was turned to excellent military account. This was nothing less than an attack upon the camp. At first this was more or less an affair of "outposts," our sentries by the brook being subjected to abuse, and later to assault. Later, an attack in force was reported, and the guard having first been turned out, a general mobilization was ordered. One half company took the attackers on the left flank and the other on the right. A somewhat protracted engagement ensued, during which one of our men received a severe head wound. Fortune favoured us, however, and the attack was beaten off and several prisoners were taken. These were promptly marched off to the guard room. Later in the day the enemy, who had meantime been strongly reinforced, again

approached our lines and prepared to give battle. This was joyfully accepted by our men, who, carrying out the able strategy of the O.C. with speed and accuracy, quickly routed the enemy and brought in some fifteen prisoners.

During the afternoon a court martial was constituted and the prisoners were brought before it. Several of them adopted a very truculent tone on first coming before the court, but a few questions and the evident seriousness of the officers composing the court soon convinced them that they were in great danger of serious punishment, and their attitude changed to one of extreme concern. The gentleman who on being asked his name replied "Ted-er-Jones," and proceeded to inform the court of his various ailments and his lack of knowledge of the district in which he lived, was "caught out" through the perspicacity of one of the officers, whose experience as a special constable enabled him to recognise the hesitating manner in which the name was given. His true name and address were subsequently obtained by methods well known in police courts, and condign punishment was meted out. Sentries at danger points were doubled that night in view of possible reprisals by the enemy, but beyond a suspicious "signalling" in the lane (which was discovered to be from a policeman's lamp) nothing transpired to disturb the nocturnal serenity of the camp.

Many boys will know that during military operations a message is often sent from one point to another by passing the message along from man to man. The corps practised this one day in camp. The message sent was: "To Commanding Officer from Lieut. Jackson, Enemy in force half-mile east-south-east of our left flank." The message as received at the other end read: "From Commanding Officer Lieut. Jackson, Enemy on flank north-east south-east on each side"! Lest any who have no knowledge of the difficulty of carrying such messages should scoff, we may call their attention to a similar incident which is reported to have occurred at the Front. The message was: "We are going to advance, can you send us reinforcements." As received it read: "We are going to a dance, can you lend us three and fourpence"!

In carrying out the duties of orderly officer, Lieut. Horth set a high standard on the first day which was well-maintained by Lieuts. Corderey and Jackson. But the work of the other officers is relatively unimportant when compared with that of the Quartermaster, on whose efforts the success of a camp must inevitably depend. Happy is the corps which has a good Quartermaster, and in this respect we must reckon ourselves fortunate indeed. From the moment the Camp Committee started work the Quartermaster threw himself whole-heartedly into the work, and despite the leaden

skies and heavy rains during the days which immediately preceded the camp, always predicted a successful camp and fine weather.

In the camp itself, under his excellent supervision the cooks worked with right good will, so much so that there was not even the suspicion of a complaint during the week. The wish of all in camp is that we may have many more camps, and with Lieut. Poyser as Quartermaster every time.

In conclusion, it will be sufficient to say that when camp broke up on the Saturday everyone was enthusiastically wishing for another camp next year.

S.R.D.

IN MEMORIAM.

EDGAR S. MACE (O.R. '03-'11), 20th London Regt.

Hon. Sec. O.R.A., 1913-14.

Killed in Action, September 26th, 1915.

In the great attack at the end of September the 20th London bore an honourable part, and paid a heavy price. We are poorer by the loss of one whose name will stand high on the School's roll of fame, one whose modesty and charm of manner endeared him to all those who knew him, and whose faithful work as Hon. Sec. of the O.R.A. is fresh in the memory of all. He put his heart into everything he took up, and did it well. He never shirked an unpleasant duty, nor one which required unaccustomed endeavours. Those of us who remember his diffidence at undertaking his part in "My Lord in Livery," and the splendid success he made of it, will realise how he would rise to the occasion when duty bade him face the horror of the battlefield.

Lieut. C. W. Clout (O.R. '06–'12), 20th London, says, in a letter to Mace's parents: "Edgar came through the attack safely and through the whole of the first day's fighting; on the afternoon of the second day the Germans counter-attacked strongly, and some troops of another division attached to us reported that the trench they were holding was full of Germans. Edgar, by his personal example and influence, managed to check the retirement, and then volunteered for the dangerous post of leading bayonet-man in a bombing attack on the trench. He was killed by a sniper as he was bravely exposing himself in order to direct the bombers. He died instantaneously, shot through the head, and is buried

where he fell. He died as he lived, cheerful, self-sacrificing, courageous, loved and respected by all with whom he came in contact."

Sergeant Lane, of the 7th Platoon, writing to his parents, says: "You must try and find consolation in the fact that he died a most gallant death. Word come through that the enemy had occupied our front line, and your son at once volunteered to lead a party of men to recapture it. He started off under a tremendous machine-gun and rifle fire; he was shot through the head, so died quite painlessly. It was a most heroic action, and we are all proud of him. It may be some consolation to you to know he died so nobly; he was always one of our best soldiers, ready for anything, fearing nothing, always cheerful. I am sure the time he spent with us was a happy one for him. He was liked and admired by us all."

Mr. Crofts writes: "It was a great shock to hear of poor Mace's death, even in these times when such news is part of the daily round. He was such a sterling type of Old Boy, so genuinely fond of his School and all that belonged to it, and he worked so hard for the O.R.A. that his loss will be felt in no ordinary measure. As Head Boy, as Secretary of the Old Boys, on the cricket or football field, he was always the same, keen, whole-hearted, content only with the best he could give. And when the greater call came he was one of the first to respond. It is the loss of such as he that makes this terrible war so appalling. How can we replace our best."

S. J. Ady Crouch (O.R.), the first Secretary of the Old Roan Association, has sent us the following eloquent appreciation:—

"Death has become very familiar to us in these days. There are few homes upon which its terrible shadow has not fallen, and we are hourly forced to look it straight in the face. Yet it was with a great shock that I read the announcement of the death in action of Edgar Mace. It seemed such a short time since he was captaining the School XI against the Old Boys, so incredible that he should have been suddenly cut off from the fulness and promise of life. It was something deeper than pride of race that prompted Mace to enlist. I had many talks with him on this subject, and can well remember the clear and conscientious views he held on duty and national honour. He realised to the full the gravity of the situation, and 'leapt to arms unbidden.'

It is a consoling thought that these Old Boys who have gladly, freely made the supreme sacrifice, have fulfilled a great purpose. The old Latin motto still holds good, but to die for one's land is sweeter far when life is given up for those high ideals for which England has unsheathed the sword to-day.

The flourishing condition of the Old Roan Association is in a large measure due to the unselfish and untiring work of Edgar Mace. The secretarial duties attached to such an organisation make large demands upon energy and enthusiasm, and only those who have had some experience of a similar post will be able to appreciate fully the amount of time which Mace devoted to the interests of the Old Boys. He took up the secretaryship of the Old Roan Association in much the same spirit that he joined the Colours, foreseeing the sacrifices involved, yet undaunted and confident. It was characteristic of his zeal that during his training at Blackheath practically all his spare time was given to Association matters. His efforts have borne, and will continue to bear, good fruit, for he put his heart into his work. He was far too modest to take any credit to himself for this, and I, who have had the opportunity of observing his earnestness and the many hours he freely spent in furthering the aims of the Association, should like to record the Committee's deep appreciation of that work.

Mace had many friends amongst the Old Boys, as one of his charm of personality always will have, and while he will be sadly missed by all, to some his loss will be a heavy blow. He achieved more than popularity, he won affection. It is a gift given only to a few. To me it was always a pleasure to meet him at the various functions, and to know how highly he was esteemed by the older as well as the younger members. His big athletic figure and cheery face were the index, as it were, of a happy nature.

It was on the cricket field that I first met him, four years ago, in command of the School XI, and the last letter I received from him contained an interesting account of a cricket match he had played in behind the firing line. He had the qualities of the true sportsman, and a keen sense of 'playing the game.'

One may feel sure that Mace died as he lived, fearlessly and with a manly heart. His life, just at its beginning, has been surrended to the Great Cause, and he has now joined that very gallant body of Old Roan Boys of whom it may be written—

'They have laid down their lives for England's sake,
They are the living soul of England now.'"

OLD ROAN ASSOCIATION.

President: W. J. Potter, Esq., M.A., Roan School.
Hon. Secretary: Mr. S. R. Ducker, Roan School.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Huntley, 1 Delacourt Road, Blackheath.
Hon. Recreation Secretary:
Mr. S. J. Ady Crouch, 10 Humber Road, Blackheath.

October 13th, 1915.

To the Members of the Old Roan Association,

I cannot cease to be your President without a parting word—not a word of farewell, for I hope to be among you many times more. It is now four years since we started together, and we have never looked back. The Association has fulfilled, in part at all events, the aims which I remember were put before you at the first meeting. Old Boys have renewed contact with their School, and have made their school life and their after life a continuous whole, not two separate compartments, as so often happens. But much remains to be done, and it will be done. You want to increase your membership fivefold, to include all who love their old School, and surely there must be many hundreds of such. We may be justly proud of all those of you who have come forward and offered themselves for their country, and we must see that their names are honoured on our Roll. Of that I will say more when I come as your Guest to the Dinner.

I shall look forward each Term to my Magazine with great eagerness, and it will be a real pleasure to me to hear of the Association growing stronger and stronger each year. I shall follow its growth to manhood with parental interest and affection.

Your sincere well-wisher,

T. R. N. Crofts.

The Annual General Meeting of the Old Roan Association was held at the School on September 24th, when the following officials were elected for the Season :—

President: W. J. Potter, Esq.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Huntley.
Hon Secretary: Mr. S. R. Ducker.

Committee:

Mr. S. J. A. Crouch, '03. Mr. G. H. Kemp, '13.
,, T. G. Ellison, '83. ,, B. D. Stanley, '03.
,, H. J. Hindwood, '13. ,, N. L. Smith, Head Boy.
Mr. J. Amesbury, ,, W. Mann } Masters' Representatives.

A most hearty vote of thanks was passed by the meeting to Mr. Crofts for all his past services to the Association. Mr. Croft's relation to the Association is unique, for he was its founder and he has worked most energetically to build up a strong and enduring fabric. The Association and Old Roan Boys generally owe to him a debt of gratitude it will be difficult to repay, but it can be repaid in one way, and that a way which will give the very greatest pleasure to our Founder. Let us all, then, use our best endeavours to strengthen and preserve these links between O.R's which have been forged by our esteemed Ex-President.

BALANCE SHEET.

1914—15.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1913–14 ...	1	14	2	Printing	2	18	6
Members :—				Postage	3	9	6
Ordinary ... 13 16 0				Stationery		8	2
Life 4 4 0				Prizes (Progressive Games)		17	10
	18	0	0	Incidental Expenses ,,		5	0
Donations	1	0	6	Magazines	5	0	0
				Extra Dinner Expenses ..		12	0
				Gratuity (Mr. Sharp) ...		10	0
				Treasurer's Expenses ...		5	3
				Entertainment Exp. (1914)	1	1	0
				Balance	5	7	5
	£20	14	8		£20	14	8

Compared with the Vouchers and found correct,

September 19th, 1915. LEONARD HORTON, G. R. PARKER } *Hon. Auditors.*

The Committee has determined to make a special effort this year to increase the membership of the Association. They have decided to send a copy of this Magazine to all Old Boys who have at any time been members of the Association, requesting them to renew their membership. A copy is also being sent to all boys who have left the School during the past year. The Treasurer or Secretary will be glad to receive subscriptions. The rate of subscription is 2s. 6d. per annum, which is reduced to 1s. in the case of Old Boys under 18, or £1 1s. for Life Memberships. Each member of the Association receives a copy of the Magazine each term.

The attention of all Old Boys and their friends is called to the Whist Drive to be held at the Borough Hall, Greenwich, on Friday, November 19th, in aid of the funds of the School Cadet Corps. The Committee realises the difficulty of evening meetings at the present time, but has answered objections by choosing an evening

near the full moon. It is hoped that there will be a record gathering in support of the Cadet Corps, an account of whose doings is to be found elsewhere in this number. Tickets for the Whist Drive, price 1s., may be obtained from the Secretary on application.

The Secretary wishes to call the attention of Old Boys to the fact that notices of all meetings of the Association are given in the "Kentish Mercury," "Kentish Independent," "Lewisham Borough News" and "South Eastern Herald."

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Saturday, December 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Mr. Crofts will be the guest of the evening.

The Committee hopes that a large number of Old Boys will turn up to give Mr. Crofts a rousing reception. New members may like to know that the Dinner is quite an informal gathering which offers a pleasant means of reunion among Old Boys and Masters. Last year's dinner was most successful, quite a large number of members in khaki being present. Tickets will be sent out in due course, and it would help considerably if those who intend to be present will return the enclosed slip by *December 1st*, as a guarantee of sixty is required.

EVENTS.

1915.
Nov. 6, Sat.—Football, Old Boys *v.* School, on the School Ground, The Avenue, Eltham Road, Lee, 2.30 p.m.

,, 19, Fri.—Whist Drive, at Borough Hall, Greenwich, in aid of funds of the School Cadet Corps, 7.30 p.m.

Dec. 11, Sat.—Dinner at "Ship" Hotel, Greenwich, at 6.30 p.m. Guest of the evening, T. R. N. Crofts, Esq.

1916.
Feb. 4, Fri.—Patriotic Concert, at School, 7.30 p.m.

Mar. 17, Fri.—Paper on "Satire," by T. R. N. Crofts, Esq., at the School, at 7.30 p.m.

July Cricket Match, Old Boys *v.* School.

,, Annual Athletic Sports—Old Boys' Events.

,, Swimming Fête—Old Boys' Events.

Sept. 29, Fri.—Annual General Meeting, 7.30 p.m.

Ladies are invited to be present at all events except the Dinner and the Annual General Meeting.

T. G. Ellison (O.R. '78–'83) has been appointed First-Class Engineering Assistant to H.M. Office of Works. Mr. Ellison, who takes a great interest in the work of the O.R.A., is just recovering from a severe operation. The best wishes of the O.R.A. will be with him during this time.

T. S. Clack (O.R. '98–'05), Lieut., R.F.A., had the honour of dining with H.H. the Sultan of Egypt, on June 23rd, at Ras-el-Tin, Alexandria. Lieut. Clack is Adjutant of the 29th Divisional Ammunition Column, at present in Gallipoli.

W. J. Cooper (O.R. '10–'15) passed into the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, at the last examination.

Rev. A F. Dauncey (O.R. '02'–05) has been appointed Curate at the Church of the Ascension, Blackheath.

S. L. Robinson (O.R. '07–'10), who is on the Staff of the Eastern Tel. Co., writes from Casilla 918, Valparaiso, Chili. He says, "Do not think I forget the happy times I had at School (I often wish I were back). I am serving my country here, though I wish I were somewhere in Europe, serving it in a better way. All here volunteered the day after war broke out, but the War Office sent instructions that cable clerks must stick at their posts." Robinson also mentions two O.R's he has met out there, one Vesey, now at home, and the other Kilby, in the same office.

F. H. King (O.R. '09–'10) was, on Sept. 15th, in Hospital sick, and was being sent down to the base. He had been in the Gallipoli Peninsula five months. He landed with the famous 29th Division on April 25th, and has been hard at work ever since.

C. W. Hedley (O.R. '11–'14) writes from Cairo on Sept. 16th, where he was stationed with the 2nd London Regt. He was then expecting to go to the Dardanelles in less than a week. From latest information we understand he is probably on the way to Serbia.

MARRIAGE.

Sewell—Collyer.—At St. Alphege, Greenwich, on 20th Sept., F. H. Sewell (O.R.), Lieut., to Frederica Catherine Mary Colyer, of Crooms Hill.